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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY

Germany (Russian Zone)

DATE DISTR.

20 June 1952

SUBJECT

Developments at Elektrochemisches Kombinat Bitterfeld (SAG Kaustik) NO. OF PAGES

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DATE OF INFO.

PLACE ACQUIRED - uddate i

SUPPLEMENT TO

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

. Additions to the research and development program

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- a. The development of a new floor covering (Fussbodenbelag) which must be spark proof and stable to acids, alkalis and all solvents.
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- b. Dr. Schulze has succeeded after a long struggle in getting more funds (700,000 DM) for the continued development of the combined Speketer-Penjakoff process, so that Bitterfeld can once more proceed with this project.²
- c. The works oxygen plant has been ordered to isolate helium from its liquid air distillation plant and to supply SAG Kabel with one cubic meter per month.

2. Foam material

The foam producing material which was being developed to stringent Russian specifications has now been satisfactorily developed and the project is considered completed. The final product contains many ingredients, of which the most important is an alginate. This is not obtainable in the DDR and efforts are being made to obtain a supply from the West. At present the works holds a quantity of the 20 kilos which was obtained for the development work.

3. Perium nitrate

The works has been requested by the State Planning Commission to supply 20 kilos of cerium nitrate for the manufacture of gas mantles. This is stated to represent one year's supply.

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4. Iron powder

A good substitute for carbonyl iron powder is at present being produced from ferrous oxalate. The production at the moment is running on a pilot plant scale. A large plant is at present under construction.

5. New Igurit

A new Igurit has been developed which has a very high heat tolerance and chemical resistance. It is alleged to withstand temperatures as high as $600^{\rm o}$ and may withstand $800^{\rm o}$ for a short time. It is also a very good insulator (which the old Igurit was not) and very much more resistant to chemical attack. $^{\rm h}$

6. Boron carbide

The works is to undertake the production of the abrasive in large quantities.

7. Methylene chloride

CH2Cl2 will be produced at the rate of 100 tons/month.

8. Aluminum production

Ahrwerk I⁵ went into half scale production on 22 February owing to failure of bauxite supplies and was just about to close down altogether when fresh supplies arrived on 3 March. Since then production has been at dull scale. As a result of the semi-shutdown many man-hours were lost because the electrolysis baths had cooled and had to be started again.

9. Rebuilding of Werk Nord

A new iron foundry is to be built at Werk Nord at a cost of 2,000,000 DM. Production will commence at the end of the year. The manager will be Dombois, former manager of the sodium electrolysis plant. The foundry is to produce high grade special alloys including ferrotitanium, ferrotungsten, ferrockrome, ferromolybdenum and ferroniobium.

1.	Comment: Igelit fulfills most of these requirements,	25X1
	but is not sufficiently resistant to chemicals and solvents.	25X1
	the spark-proofing requirement might indicate that the floor covering is for use in the presence of inflammable solvents or similar material.	
2.		25X1
3		
	Comment: The method used for testing in the development of this material is as follows: The material is dissolved in the desired solvent, then beaten	L
	with a perforated plunger in a graduated cylinder at the rate of 60 strokes	
	per minute for 2 minutes. It then stands for 2 hours. To pass the test the	
	head of foam must not have diminished by more than 50 per cent during the	
	2-hour period.	
4.	Comment: this material can be heated red hot in a welding torch for a few moments and then put in cold water without	25X1
	suffering any ill effects. The development work was carried out by one	
	Scheibe, who was promoted to the rank of works manager on the strength of it.	
	Comment: as of mid-January	25 X 1
	1952 the Igurit works had been made an independent "Betrieb", with Otto Scheibe, the former foreman, as Betriebsleiter.	
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Comment: the information that the works received a letter 25X1 from Professor Faltin, of Technische Hochschule, Dresden, asking for information regarding the stability of Freon 12 to iron and steel at high temperatures and pressures. He claimed he was developing a turbine which would operate with Freon 12 in lieu of steam and which would run at temperatures up to 500° C. and pressures of 60 to 120 atmospheres.

Comment: The 1950 Dresden telephone directory lists Prof. Hans 25X1 Faltin Dr.-Ing. at A24 Schnorrstr. 76.

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW